

Amendments to the Claims:

Please cancel claims 18, 20, 24, 27, and 29-46 without prejudice or disclaimer.
This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for partitioning, comprising:
receiving a data access request, said data access request includes a filter, said filter includes one or more variables in a first format;
determining one or more data stores of a plurality of data stores to service said data access request, said step of determining includes accessing one or more mappings of said one or more variables to said plurality of data stores, and using said mappings to evaluate partition expressions for said data stores, wherein using said mappings to evaluate partition expressions for said data stores includes determining whether said filter overlaps with said partition expressions based on said mappings by performing a partition compare function using said filter and a first partition expression to determine whether said filter overlaps with said first partition expression if said filter and said first partition expression are both simple expressions and performing said partition compare function by treating said filter as an input partition expression and treating said first partition expression as an input filter in order to determine whether said filter overlaps said first partition expression if said first partition expression is a composite expression, and wherein said plurality of data stores comprises at least one relational database and at least one Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) directory; and
sending information for said data access request to said one or more data stores determined to service said data access request.

2. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein:

said data access request includes a search operation.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:

said data access request includes adding new data to a data store.

4. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein:

said data access request includes accessing data in both the relational database and the LDAP directory.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:

said data access request includes accessing data in only one data store.

6. (Canceled)

7. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein:

said plurality of data stores includes at least two relational databases.

8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein:

said step of sending includes translating said data access request to a format suitable for said relational database and communicating said translated data access request to said relational database.

10. (Original) A method according to claim 9, further comprising:

receiving a result from said relational database.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 9, further comprising:

receiving a result from said relational database; and

translating said result to said logical object class format.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said access request is from an Identity System.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said access request is from an Identity and Access System.

14. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said plurality of data stores store identity information.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said partition expressions are in LDAP filter format.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said first format is a logical object class format that is compatible with LDAP
filter format.

17. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein:
said step of sending includes creating a custom filter for said data access request
that is customized for said relational database to only include one or more variables mapped to
said relational database.

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim ~~18~~ 1, wherein
determining whether said filter overlaps with said partition expressions based on said mappings
comprises:

determining whether child sub-filters of said filter ~~expression~~ overlap with said partition expressions and combining results of said determination of whether child sub-filters overlap to determine whether said filter ~~expression~~ overlaps with said partition expressions, if said filter ~~expression~~ is a composite expression.

20. (Canceled)

21. (Currently Amended) One or more processor readable storage devices having processor readable code embodied on said processor readable storage devices, said processor readable code for programming one or more processors to perform a method comprising:

receiving a data access request, said data access request includes a filter, said filter includes one or more variables in a first format;

determining one or more data stores of a plurality of data stores to service said data access request, said step of determining includes accessing one or more mappings of said one or more variables to said plurality of data stores, and using said mappings to evaluate partition expressions for said data stores, wherein using said mappings to evaluate partition expressions for said data stores includes determining whether said filter overlaps with said partition expressions based on said mappings by performing a partition compare function using said filter and a first partition expression to determine whether said filter overlaps with said first partition expression if said filter and said first partition expression are both simple expressions and performing said partition compare function by treating said filter as an input partition expression and treating said first partition expression as an input filter in order to determine whether said filter overlaps said first partition expression if said first partition expression is a composite expression, and wherein said plurality of data stores comprises at least one relational database and at least one Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) directory; and

sending information for said data access request to said one or more data stores determined to service said data access request.

22. (Previously Presented) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 21, wherein:

said step of sending includes translating said data access request to a format suitable for said relational database based on said mappings and communicating said translated data access request to said relational database.

23. (Original) One or more processor readable storage devices according to claim 21, wherein:

said partition expressions are in LDAP filter format.

24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that can partition, comprising:
one or more storage devices; and
one or more processors in communication with said one or more storage devices,
said one or more processors perform a method comprising:

accessing a data access request, said data access request includes a filter, said filter includes one or more variables in logical object class format,

determining one or more data stores of a plurality of data stores to service said data access request, said step of determining includes accessing one or more mappings of said one or more variables to said plurality of data stores, and using said mappings to evaluate partition expressions for said data stores, wherein using said mappings to evaluate partition expressions for said data stores includes determining whether said filter overlaps with said partition expressions based on said mappings by performing a partition compare function using said filter and a first partition expression to determine whether said filter overlaps with said first partition expression if said filter and said first partition expression are both simple expressions and performing said partition compare function by treating said filter as an input partition expression and treating said first partition expression as an input filter in order to determine

whether said filter overlaps said first partition expression if said first partition expression is a composite expression, and wherein said plurality of data stores comprises at least one relational database and at least one Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) directory, and sending information for said data access request to said one or more data stores determined to service said data access request.

26. (Previously Presented) An apparatus according to claim 25, wherein: said step of sending includes translating said data access request to a format suitable for said relational database and communicating said translated data access request to said relational database.

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently Amended) An apparatus that can partition a data access request, said data access request includes a filter, said filter includes one or more variables in a first format, comprising:

means for determining one or more data stores of a plurality of data stores to service said data access request, said step of determining includes accessing one or more mappings of said one or more variables to said plurality of data stores, and using said mappings to evaluate partition expressions for said data stores, wherein using said mappings to evaluate partition expressions for said data stores includes determining whether said filter overlaps with said partition expressions based on said mappings by performing a partition compare function using said filter and a first partition expression to determine whether said filter overlaps with said first partition expression if said filter and said first partition expression are both simple expressions and performing said partition compare function by treating said filter as an input partition expression and treating said first partition expression as an input filter in order to determine whether said filter overlaps said first partition expression if said first partition expression is a composite expression, and wherein said plurality of data stores comprises at least

one relational database and at least one Lightweight Directory Access Protocol (LDAP) directory; and

means for sending said data access request to said one or more data stores determined to service said data access request.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Canceled)

31. (Canceled)

32. (Canceled)

33. (Canceled)

34. (Canceled)

35. (Canceled)

36. (Canceled)

37. (Canceled)

38. (Canceled)

39. (Canceled)

40. (Canceled)

Appl. No. 10/682,330

Amdt. dated: October 30, 2007

Reply to Office Action of September 11, 2007

Amendment Under 37 CFR 1.116 Expedited Procedure

Examining Group 2165

PATENT

41. (Canceled)

42. (Canceled)

43. (Canceled)

44. (Canceled)

45. (Canceled)

46. (Canceled)